# 2017-2018 CONTEMPORARY ART PROGRAM FINE ARTS MUSEUMS OF SAN FRANCISCO ABOUT THE ARTISTS

#### DIS

The New York-based collective DIS; made up of Lauren Boyle, Solomon Chase, Marco Roso, and David Toro, works across a wide range of media, most recently transitioning platforms from an online magazine to a video streaming edutainment. The group has become the nucleus of an ever-growing international community of artists, musicians, photographers, writers, and designers. Functioning as curators and commentators, DIS weaves together the content of collaborators with its own work to propose discourse around chosen topics. In 2013, the group established DISimages, a fully operational stock photography agency that enlists artists to produce images available for private and commercial use, and DISown, an ongoing retail platform and laboratory dedicated to testing the current status of the art object. *Genre-Nonconforming: The DIS Edutainment Network* is DIS' first major project since curating the 9th Berlin Biennale in 2016.

### Lynn Hershman Leeson

Starting out in installation and interactive performance art during the 1960s, pioneering media artist Lynn Hershman Leeson continues to create work that includes performance, moving image, drawing, collage, text, site-specific interventions, and new media / digital technologies. Her projects signal concerns, ranging from the politics of privacy, and surveillance, to voyeurism, and identity. Hershman Leeson has enjoyed recent solo exhibitions at , Zentrum fuer Kunst und Medien, Karlsruhe, Sammlung Falckenberg, Hamburg, and Modern Art Oxford. Her work is in the collections of Museum of Modern Art; Tate Modern, London; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Berkeley Art Museum, Seattle Museum of Art, Zentrum fuer Kunst und Medien, Karlsruhe, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; and Museum of Contemporary Art, Warsaw. Born in Cleveland, Hershman Leeson is currently based in San Francisco and New York.

#### Julian Schnabel

A multidisciplinary practice, which extends beyond painting to include sculpture and film, defines the extraordinary ouevre that Julian Schnabel has built over the past forty years. Exploring the expansive themes of human experience, such as sexuality, obsession, redemption, death, and belief, his paintings alternate between abstraction and figuration. He incorporates a diversity of found materials, such as broken plates, textiles, tarpaulins, and velvet; images, names, and fragments of language; and thickly applied paint, resin, and digital reproductions. Since his first solo exhibition in 1979, Schnabel has been the subject of numerous exhibitions, including retrospectives organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art; Fundació Joan Miró, Barcelona; Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt; Museo Correr, Venice; and Brant Foundation Art Study Center, Greenwich. Schnabel's works are in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Museum of Modern Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art; the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid; Tate Modern, London and the Centre Pompidou, Paris, among other institutions. The artist lives and works in New York City and Montauk, Long Island.

## **The Propeller Group**

The Propeller Group—a Vietnamese-American artist collective based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam—blurs the boundaries between fine art and media production. The group's ambitious projects are anchored in either Vietnam's history or the country's current dynamics as a growing capitalist market, and yet they also address global phenomena, whether international commerce, the tools of war, or shared traditions across cultures. The video work *The Living Need Light, The Dead Need* Music (2014) acquired by the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco in 2017, poetically aligns the funeral traditions of South Vietnam with those of New Orleans, vividly portraying the shared rituals surrounding death and remembrance. The work resonates powerfully with the museum's Southeast Asian holdings, which include many objects related to funerary rites, and with the exhibition *Revelations: Art from the African American South*, on view at the de Young until April 1, 2018. The Propeller Group's work has been exhibited at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; the 2008 Guangzhou Triennial, Guangzhou, the 2012 New Museum Triennial, Museum of Modern Art, as well as at Hammer Museum, and the 2014 Prospect New Orleans Biennial, among other exhibition platforms.

## **Richard Jackson**

Since the 1970s, Richard Jackson has engaged in an expansive painting practice that seeks to reinvent the medium's potential by upending its technical conventions. Over the course of Jackson's career, he has turned paint from a means of expression into a method of adhesion, and from a carefully applied substance into one that is indiscriminately poured, smeared, spattered and thrown. Jackson first came to international attention in 1992. His work has been featured in numerous group exhibitions, including the 1999 Venice Biennale and the 1997 Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, as well as at Zentrum fuer Kunst und Medien, Karlsruhe. Recent solo exhibitions have been organized by the CAB Art Center, Brussels; Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent; Museum Villa Stuck, Munich; and the Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach. Born in Sacramento, he lives and works outside Los Angeles.